

# MEETING MINUTES

## KEEP KERN BEAUTIFUL COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting

April 16, 2025

PSB Public Meeting Room: 2700 'M' Street, Bakersfield 93301, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

2:00-3:00 P.M.

**1) Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m.

**2) Welcome and Roll Call**

Committee Coordinator Alicia A. Gutierrez welcomed Committee Members, Kern County Public Works staff, County Counsel, and guests present.

*Committee Members Present*

Gary Ananian (1A), Max Goossen (4), Joel Mackay (2), Steven McDaniel (2A)

*Committee Members Not Present*

Daniel Harrison (Chairperson) (1), Olivia Jones (3), David Kadel (3A), Christopher McGehee (5A)

**3) Approval of Meeting Minutes from Regular Meeting on January 15, 2025**

**MOTION:** *To approve Meeting Minutes from January 15, 2025 Regular Meeting*

Motioned by Max Goossen; seconded by Gary Ananian

Approved unanimously by all Committee Members

**4) Selection of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson to Serve a One-year Term**

Committee Coordinator Alicia A. Gutierrez outlined the bylaws concerning the appointments of the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

She noted that Daniel Harrison has served as the Chairperson appointed since 2021.

The Committee Members considered appointing Olivia Jones and Max Goossen; however, due to Olivia's absence, the Committee Members decided to table the item until the next meeting on July 16, 2025.

**MOTION:** *To move the selection of the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson to the next meeting.*

Motioned by Max Goossen; seconded by Gary Ananian

Approved unanimously by all Committee Members

**5) New Business**

- A. Welcome and Introduce new Keep Kern Beautiful Committee Primary Member representing District 2, Joel Mackay

**I. INTRODUCTIONS**

District 2 Committee Member Joel Mackay stated that he was raised in the desert and has experience as a sheriff. He is currently serving his third year on the Rosamond Municipal Advisory Council, where he actively works to combat illegal dumping in the desert. Upon recognizing that it was becoming an increasingly serious problem, he chose to get more involved, which led him to join Keep Kern Beautiful.

- B. Welcome and Introduce new Keep Kern Beautiful Committee Alternate Member representing District 2, Steven McDaniel

**I. INTRODUCTIONS**

District 2 Committee Member Steven McDaniel stated that he is honored to be a part of Keep Kern Beautiful. He grew up in Porterville and is now a resident of Taft. He served as a school principal and is now a college professor. He is more than aware that illegal dumping is an issue in his district. He has strong community ties and experience in working with residents, as well as through his church. Additionally, he mentioned that he is a close friend with Max Goossen's grandfather, Bob Hampton.

District 1 Committee Member Gary Ananian, District 4 Committee Member Max Goossen, and Committee Coordinator Alicia A. Gutierrez introduced themselves to the new Committee Members. In addition, Committee Coordinator Alicia A. Gutierrez mentioned that community clean up supplies and graffiti removal supplies are available for all Committee Members to use to help with their clean-up efforts.

- C. Keep Kern Beautiful Committee Fundraising

**I. COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO DISCUSS SPONSORSHIP FORM/LETTER**

District 4 Committee Member Max Goossen advocated starting with a lower dollar amount on the sponsorship form.

In response, District 1 Committee Member Gary Ananian proposed the introduction of a t-shirt sponsorship level that would prominently display an organization's logo, along with a banner recognizing sponsors during clean-ups and a customizable donation amount. He also suggested creating a Keep Kern Beautiful-related Instagram account to connect community members and potential donors, which could include using hashtags or mentioning local organizations and community groups to showcase their participation.

District 2 Committee Member Joel Mackay noted that it would be beneficial to distinguish the committee from Kern County Public Works to prevent any confusion, recommending that Keep Kern Beautiful

establish their own social media platform separate from Kern County Public Works.

D. Upcoming Community Clean-ups

I. **COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO DISCUSS ANY UPCOMING COMMUNITY CLEAN-UPS AND HOW TO GET THE COMMUNITY INVOLVED**

District 2 Committee Member Joel Mackay mentioned organizing a community clean-up in Rosamond in the works for the month of May.

District 4 Committee Member Max Goossen announced his participation, along Westside Waste Management, Inc., in a disposal event taking place in Buttonwillow on May 3.

District 1 Committee Member Gary Ananian announced the Annual Trout Fest event organized by the Kern River Conservancy, which will be held in Kernville in April.

6) **Receive and File a Presentation by Alicia A. Gutierrez, Keep Kern Beautiful Committee Coordinator, on behalf of Karina Mendez, Public Works Maintenance Worker II on recent and upcoming community clean-up efforts**

*Household Hazardous Waste/Temporary Collection Events*

- May 2, 2025 – Tehachapi Landfill
- May 3, 2025 – Tehachapi Landfill
- May 3, 2025 – Mojave Special Waste Facility
- May 10, 2025 – Ridgecrest Special Waste Facility
- May 17, 2025 – Lebec Transfer Station
- May 24, 2025 – Ridgecrest Special Waste Facility
- May 31, 2025 – Kern Valley Transfer Station
- June 6, 2025 – Tehachapi Landfill
- June 7, 2025 – Tehachapi Landfill
- June 14, 2025 – Ridgecrest Special Waste Facility
- June 27, 2025 – Lebec Transfer Station
- June 28, 2025 – Ridgecrest Special Waste Facility
- July 5, 2025 – Mojave Special Waste Facility
- July 12, 2025 – Ridgecrest Special Waste Facility
- July 18, 2025 – Tehachapi Landfill
- July 19, 2025 – Tehachapi Landfill
- July 23, 2025 – Glennville Transfer Station
- July 25, 2025 – Lebec Transfer Station
- July 26, 2025 – Ridgecrest Special Waste Facility

*Bulky Waste Collection Events*

So far this year, there have been four (4) Bulky Waste Collection Events held in the following communities: Lamont, Wasco, Ridgecrest and Mojave. There are another three (3) planned for May:

May 3 – Buttonwillow at the Recreation & Park District

May 10 – Lake Isabella at the Veterans/Seniors Center

May 17 – Bakersfield at Meadows Field, Kern County Fairgrounds, and Kern Medical

On June 21, we'll be in Tehachapi at the Waste Management Yard and on July 26, we'll be at Wofford Heights Park

**MOTION:** *To receive and file a presentation on recent and upcoming community clean-up efforts*

Motioned by Max Goossen; seconded by Steven McDaniel

Approved unanimously by all Committee Members

**7) Committee Member Announcements or Reports**

District 1 Committee Member Gary Ananian stated that his organization – Kern River Conservancy – along with Team Rubicon, organized a Havilah Clean-up. This initiative received private funding to manage waste disposal and transport the waste to Bena Landfill, considering commuting and fueling expenses.

**8) Staff Comment**

Committee Coordinator Alicia A. Gutierrez highlighted the Committee and its newly appointed members. She expressed her commitment to providing updates in the Kern County Public Works quarterly newsletter. Additionally, she mentioned that she is more than willing to share the contact information of Supervisor field representatives with those who do not already have it. She pointed out that for anyone uncertain about how to begin planning a community clean-up, they can consult with field representatives, who may already have identified problematic areas in their communities.

She also mentioned that Kathleen Krauss provided a heads up that the Board of Supervisors will be reappointing the following Keep Kern Beautiful Committee Members on April 29, 2025: Daniel Harrison and Gary Ananian for District 1; David Kadel for District 3; and, Christopher McGehee is moving to District 5 Primary Member, so the Alternate Member position for District 5 will be vacant until filled.

**9) Public Comment**

Supervisor District 2 Field Representative Paul Yanez expressed his gratitude toward the Committee Members and noted his eagerness to see all eight of them at upcoming meetings. He also mentioned that Supervisor Parlier is enthusiastic about witnessing the Committee reach its full potential.

**10) Next Regular Meeting: Wednesday, July 16, 2025, from 2:00-3:00 p.m.**

**11) Adjourn**

**MOTION:** *To adjourn the meeting*

Motioned by Max Goossen; seconded by Steven McDaniel

Approved unanimously by all Committee Members

The meeting adjourned at 3:12 p.m.